GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2752
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2006
SOIL TESTING PARK
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up soil testing parks across the country to boost the agriculture production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which soil testing parks are likely to be set up across the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): There is no proposal to set up soil testing parks across the country to boost the agriculture production. However, to increase the soil fertility, the Government is promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) which includes soil test based balanced & judicious use of chemical fertilizers including micro nutrients in conjunction with organic manures, farm yard manure, green manure, compost, vermicompost, bio-fertilizers, etc.

At present, there are 551 soil testing laboratories in the country which includes 426 static and 125 mobile labs. with an annual analyzing capacity of 6.75 million soil samples during 2004-05. The Govt. is also providing financial assistance for strengthening/setting up of soil testing laboratories through annual work plans of the State Governments under Macro Management Scheme.

(c): Does not arise.